

# The Folk Club

Volume 11 Issue 6

of Reston-Herndon  
Preserving Folk Traditions

June, 1997

## June 10 Showcase - Mike Ball

Mike Ball has been a rare sight at the Folk Club recently, since he's been working in Cleveland most weeks since last November. He's a business analyst for EDS in Gaithersburg, specializing in managed health care computer systems. The Cleveland assignment is ending, and Mike will be returning in style as our June showcase performer!

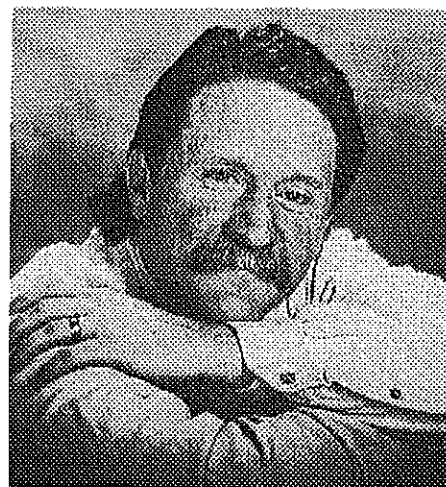
Mike first picked up a guitar at age sixteen in his native Baltimore, and was a fingerstyle player from the start, learning Freight Train, Railroad Bill, and Don't Think Twice It's All Right. He added banjo two years later, and spent several years focusing on bluegrass. It was in this bluegrass period that he bought his first good guitar, a Martin, in 1973, and did his first flatpicking, with Doc Watson as his model. He now plays about 90% fingerstyle and 10% flatpicking, and still plays banjo, but not usually in the bluegrass style.

Other influences on Mike's playing have been Gordon Lightfoot, Tom Russell, Dale Miller, Pat Donohue, and John Hartford. It was from a Dale Miller instructional LP back in the 70's that Mike learned moving bass lines and alternate chord selection, and John Hartford is the one who showed how to play banjo in various styles. Mike has gone to Merlefest for the last four years, and will be at Augusta for the fourth time this summer to be in Pat Donohue's swing guitar class.

In addition to playing, Mike has been teaching guitar for almost six years, for the last four years at Victor Litz music in Gaithersburg. He'll be conducting a guitar workshop there on June 12 from 8:00 to 9:00 PM (call the store at 301-948-7478 for more information), and is a great source for advice. For example, if you're flying on a commercial airline with your guitar, Mike recommends tapping into the experience found on Pat Kirtley's website at <http://www.win.net/~mainstring/carryon.html>.

It's less than three years ago that Mike first played in public. It "only took him 27 years (of playing) to sit in front of a mike," he says with a smile, but the experience has been uplifting. Mike was first attracted to the Folk Club by fingerstyle guest artists like Roy Book Binder and Ari Eisinger, liked what he found, and joined. For his showcase he's planning on playing guitar only, no banjo, and debuting six new songs. See the *In Concert* section of this newsletter for Mike's other upcoming gigs, and don't miss his showcase on June 10!

### Inside:



James Mee

# James Mee

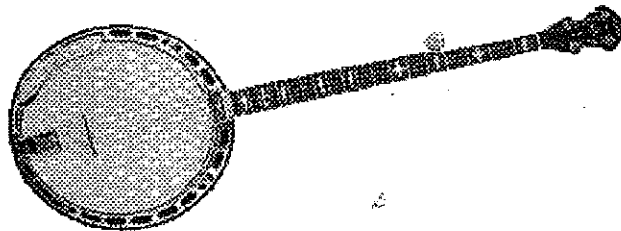
7:30 PM June 17, 1997

Tickets \$7 (\$6 members)



Vermont based singer songwriter James Mee is often compared to the great storytellers Harry Chapin and Jim Croce, in the manner in which he captures the hearts of young and old with portraits of Americana delivered in a warm, neighborly, acoustic style. His music is so magical it spirits the listener away from everyday laments to a time when beauty and humor forged the fondest memories of our lives. Jim has been playing the New England area for 12 years, and is best known as the author and performer of "Big Times in a Small Town," the title song of Christine Lavin's Rounder Records compilation album, and for "Rhythm of My Heart," which was selected by ABC television for play in their show "Loving." Cherry Lane Music selected James' songs for the national release of "The Best of Contemporary Folk."

The Songsmith of Scottsdale, Arizona, described James' playing "...as I had intended it to be played, with caring and attention to the audience and his songs, truly a master with both. Captivating the audience with his warm humorous stories as Garrison Keillor does, then melting their hearts with his music. ...his live performance was priceless." James has four recordings and two published works. His music is currently produced by Terry Cashman (Croce's producer), and he is writing music with the legendary Felix Cavillere of The Young Rascals. James has been teamed in performances with the likes of Arlo Guthrie, Shawn Colvin, and Christine Lavin. We believe you will find, as the Acoustic Concerts Under the Stars related, that "from the first notes he threw out a line which quickly hooked, then reeled the audience in."



Voice lessons are available from  
Barbara Ryan - (703) 451-4492

For Sale - Ovation Balladeer, 6 string guitar with  
hardshell case, \$250 - T.M. Hanna - (703) 430-3497

*Come Spring Enterprises*  
Professional Sound Reinforcement by  
*Richard W. Finchbaugh*  
Specializing in Folk, Celtic, Traditional  
and Contemporary Acoustic Music  
Phone: (703) 255-0112



## THEY CAME, THEY PLAYED, THEY FROZE (PART 2)

Last month's newsletter had an article about Folk Club members who played at the March For Parks fundraiser on April 19, a genuinely cold day. We now have visual confirmation of the event.

Bundled up and huddling together to share their warmth are, from left to right, Jim Rosenkrans, Lynn Jordan, Pat Chen, T.M. Hanna, Lynn Romano, Eric Forthman, Fritzi Alwin, Ric Bailey, Richard Flinchbaugh, Nina Anmahian, and Todd Crowley.

Makes us appreciate the current barefoot weather all the more!

## IN CONCERT

(Folk Club Members' local performances - send your schedule to the editor to be included)

### Mike Ball

June 14, 8:00 PM, New Deal Cafe, Greenbelt, MD Community Center (301) 474-5642  
July 5, 6:00 PM, Stringfellows (see venue listing below)

### Hickory Grove

June 22, 11:00 AM, Frederick Festival of the Arts, Carroll Creek & Market Streets, Frederick, MD  
June 29, 3:00 PM, Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival, Reston Town Center, Reston, VA (703) 471-9242

### IONA

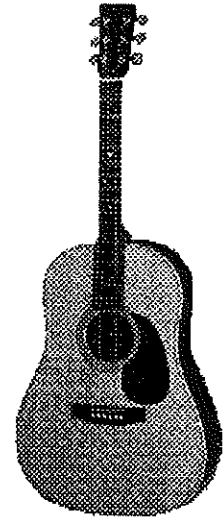
June 22, 1:00 PM, Oatlands Celtic Festival, Rte. 15 six miles south of Leesburg, (703) 777-3174  
July 9, 6:30 PM, Courthouse Plaza, 2100 Clarendon Blvd., Arlington, VA (703) 358-6960

### Ray Kaminsky

June 7, 8:00 PM, New Deal Cafe, Greenbelt, MD Community Center (301) 474-5642  
June 14, 5:30 PM, Herndon Blues Fest, Frying Pan Park (703) 437-9101

### Andrew McKnight

June 19, 7:00 PM, Starbucks Cascades (see venue listing below)



## LOCAL VENUES

(Folk Club members are listed in boldface - *the Folk Club's events are listed on the back page*)

**The Americana Stage** - 8:00 PM, in the storefront adjacent to the Leesburg Restaurant, 9 South King St., Old Town Leesburg, (703) 777-3292 (Concert info hotline (703) 777-3523)

**Starbucks Coffeehouse, Cascades** - every Thursday, 7:00-9:00 PM, 21021 Southbank St. Sterling VA, (703) 421-0932  
June 6 - Carey Colvin, Damian Wolfe, Jane Wellington June 12 - Mary Byrd Brown June 19 - **Andrew McKnight** June 26 - Dave Goodrich  
(music will resume on Wednesday nights in October)

**Starbucks Coffeehouse, Northpoint Village** - every Wednesday, 6:30 PM, 1444 Northpoint Village, Reston VA (703) 787-9341  
June 4 - Damian Wolfe June 11 - Doris Justis June 18 - Sue Trainor & Christina Muir June 25 - Venus Rising

**Starbucks Coffeehouse, Burke Center Plaza** - every Wednesday, 6:30-8:30 PM, 6003-A Burke Ctr. Pkwy, VA (703) 250-2292  
June 4 - Erin Mckeown June 11 - Damian Wolfe June 18 - DorNel Pratt June 25 - Doris Justis

**Stringfellows** - every Saturday, 6:00 PM, 201 Union St., Occoquan, VA (703) 494-3755, free  
June 7 (11:00 AM) - Spencer Whittington, Harp & Steel June 8 (11:00 AM) - Joe Potente, Harp & Steel June 13 (6:30 PM) - Alan Mager  
June 14 - Bugleweed June 20 (6:30 PM) - Mark Orahood June 21 - Greg Garrett June 27 (6:30 PM) - John Ely June 28 - Jeff Stapleton  
July 5 - **Mike Ball**

# Folk Club Guest Artists,

## Showcases, and Special Events

prices are for nonmembers/members - it pays to join!  
all times are 7:30 PM

June 10	Mike Ball Showcase	n/a
June 17	James Mee	\$7/6
July 22	Mary Flower	\$9/8
Aug. 19	Andrew McKnight/Lisa Taylor	\$8/7
Aug. 26	10th Anniv. @ Tortilla Factory!	Free
Sept. 30	Kate Campbell	\$9/8

## Folk Club Format

On most nights, the Folk Club is an open mike format with a sign-up board. Each performer gets 12 minutes (or 3 songs, whichever comes first). A \$1 donation is requested.

## Showcase Performances

On the second Tuesday of each month, we feature a Folk Club member in a two set (25-minute) "Showcase" performance. To be in a showcase all you have to do is:

- be a Folk Club member (who hasn't done a showcase in 6 months)
- fill out a lottery slip any time in the month before the drawing
- win the drawing (held on the night of the previous month's showcase); and
- practice, practice, practice!

## Newsletter Submissions

Club members' performances will be listed in the club calendar, and members' music-related notices (instruction, equipment for sale, etc.) will be listed free of charge.

Articles, reviews, artwork, and other items related to music are welcome, although publication can't be guaranteed.

Contact the editor, Dan Grove, at (703) 742-7993 or <dangrove@erols.com> with submissions or for more information.

## The Folk Club

Tuesday nights, 7:30 PM  
at The Tortilla Factory  
648 Elden St., Herndon, VA  
(703) 471-1156

President: Larry Mediate  
Treasurer: Richard Flinchbaugh

Board of Directors:  
Ray & Ellen Kaminsky, Lynn Jordan,  
Bill Davis, Dave Hurd, Jim Rosenkrans,  
T.M. Hanna, Sue Beffel, Dan Grove

Publicity & Information:  
Lynn Jordan (703) 437-7766  
Dave Hurd (703) 573-6855

Bookings:  
Ray Kaminsky (703) 689-0444

## MEMBERSHIP · ADDRESS CHANGES · RENEWAL

Check your mail label - your membership expiration date (in Year-Month-Day format, YYYYMMDD) is there. To renew, or to join for the first time, please send your check for \$12, payable to The Folk Club, to membership chair Dave Hurd at the return address below.

He's the one to send any address changes to as well.

## The Folk Club of Reston-Herndon



c/o Dave Hurd

1405 Cottage Street SW

Vienna, VA 22180

Expires  19980301  
Mr Richard Flinchbaugh  
9712 Cymbal Dr  
Vienna, VA 22182